

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An optical diffusion element comprising a layer of polymer particles self-fused together, each said polymer particle having a refractivity varying from a the center to a the periphery thereof;
wherein the layer of polymer particles is free of a binder.
2. (original) An optical diffusion element as defined in claim 1, wherein said polymer particle has an outermost shell component having a glass transition temperature lower than 100°C.
3. (original) An optical diffusion element as defined in claim 1, and further comprising a transparent layer in contact with one of opposite surfaces of said layer of said polymer particles.
4. (original) An optical diffusion element as defined in claim 1, wherein said transparent layer is formed in a dry-laminating method.
5. (original) An optical diffusion element as defined in claim 1, wherein said polymer particles have a mean particle size between approximately 0.5µm and 20µm.

6. (currently amended) A reflection type liquid crystal display equipped with an optical diffusion element comprising a layer of polymer particles self-fused together, each said polymer particle having a refractivity varying from ~~the~~ a center to ~~the~~ a periphery thereof;

wherein the layer of polymer particles is free of a binder.

7. (original) A reflection type liquid crystal display as defined in claim 6, wherein said polymer particle has an outermost shell component having a glass transition temperature lower than 100°C.

8. (original) A reflection type liquid crystal display as defined in claim 6, wherein said optical diffusion element further comprises a transparent layer in contact with one of opposite surfaces of said layer of said polymer particles.

9. (original) A reflection type liquid crystal display as defined in claim 6, wherein said transparent layer is formed in a dry-laminating method.

10. (original) A reflection type liquid crystal display as defined in claim 6, wherein said polymer particles have a mean particle size between approximately 0.5 μ m and 20 μ m.

11. (original) A reflection type liquid crystal display as defined in claim 6, wherein said optical diffusion element is formed within a liquid crystal cell.

12. (new) The optical diffusion element of claim 2, wherein the optical diffusion element acts to diffuse light passing therethrough.

13. (new) The reflection type liquid crystal display of claim 7, wherein the optical diffusion element acts to diffuse light passing therethrough.

14. (new) The optical diffusion element of claim 1, wherein the layer of polymer particles comprises a plurality of different polymers.

15. (new) The reflection type liquid crystal display of claim 6, wherein the layer of polymer particles comprises a plurality of different polymers.

16. (new) The optical diffusion element of claim 15, wherein the layer of polymer particles comprises polystyrene oligomer, styrene, dodecyl mercaptan, and 2, 2'-azobis(2, 4-dimethylvaleronitrile).

17. (new) The optical diffusion element of claim 15, wherein the layer of polymer particles comprises polybenzil methacrylate, benzil methacrylate, dodecyl mercaptan, and 2, 2'-azobis(2, 4-dimethylvaleronitrile).

18. (new) The optical diffusion element of claim 15, wherein the layer of polymer particles comprises benzil methacrylate, dodecyl mercaptan, and 2, 2'-azobis(2, 4-dimethylvaleronitrile).

19. (new) The optical diffusion element of claim 1, wherein the layer of self-fused polymer particles comprises a plurality of layers of the polymer particles.

20. (new) The optical diffusion element of claim 19, wherein the layer of self-fused polymer particles comprises at least five and no more than ten layers of the polymer particles.